

# Independence and Peace for the Vietnamese People!

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ON THE OCCASION OF THE 13TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING  
OF THE GENEVA AGREEMENTS ON VIET NAM (JULY 20, 1954)

## FOR INDEPENDENCE AND PEACE, THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE ARE DETERMINED TO DEFEAT U.S. AGGRESSION

On the occasion of the second anniversary of the announcement of the four-point stand of the D.R.V.N. government, the review *Hue Tap* carried in its April 1967 issue an article entitled: "The Four-Point Stand, Our Present Banner of Independence and Peace" of Nguyen Duy Trinh, member of the Political Bureau of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and D.R.V.N. Foreign Minister.

To help the reader understand the aggressive character of Washington's war in Viet Nam and the justice of the Vietnamese people's struggle, we are printing below Nguyen Duy Trinh's article.

The title is ours.

U.S. IMPERIALISM IS THE AGGRESSOR,  
THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE ARE THE  
VICTIMS OF AGGRESSION

THE American imperialists do their utmost to distort the truth about their aggression on Viet Nam. They try to misrepresent the patriotic struggle of our compatriots in South Viet Nam with the "North Vietnamese's aggression against South Viet Nam" allegation. They argue that G.I.'s have been sent to South Viet Nam to carry out U.S. "commitment" to the Saigon puppet administration and to the members of the aggressive S.E.A.T.O. bloc.

But no deceitful assertion can cloak American imperialist aggression. According to Lenin, war is the continuation of politics by other means, i. e. by violence. The nature of a war is determined by the answers to these two questions: What kind of politics does this war continue? Which class wages this war and for what purposes?

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Da Nang air base attacked on  
July 15, 1967 by the L.A.F.

### NORTH VIETNAM

UP TO JULY 19, 1967

2,108  
U.S. PLANES  
WERE DOWNED

(including the 2,100th  
on July 16, 1967)

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# FOR INDEPENDENCE AND FREEDOM DEAN RUSK'S SHIPPIING THE SAME STRING

(Continued from page 1)

The Vietnamese people are heroically struggling to defend socialist North Vietnam and to build a peaceful, independent, democratic and prosperous South Vietnam. They are struggling for their own independence and freedom, and also for the world people's peace and revolution. Their struggle is just. The American imperialists are waging an armed aggression against our country; their war is unjust. Their aggressive war is the continuation of the reactionary policy of the American monopolist bourgeoisie which ruthlessly exploits the people at home and plans world hegemony with a view to a bigger profit. After World War II, in the 1960s, the main base of power has shifted from West Europe to North America. As pointed out by the American statement, U.S. imperialism has become "the principal force of aggression and war," "the fortress of colonialism of our times."

Realities throw an ever brighter light on the chaos part played in the world by the American imperialists and all of imperialists, are the most active and rank first in the carrying out and developing of neo colonialism, a perfidious and machievellian form of aggression. In the political field, under the "independence and democracy" slogan, they use ambassadors to the puppet governments or "high commissioners," under the old colonialist regime, they rule over the natives through puppet governments. In the economic field, they export capital and goods to pocket hundreds of billions of dollars and undermine the economic life of the country. In the cultural field, they sign treaties of "alliance" or "joint defence" used "advisers" to train the army and navy and military aid to equip them... They combine various political measures, the military blue policy with economic "aid" and "technical assistance" to aggression against other countries (1).

Through armed aggression, they send U.S. expeditionary forces to suppress the revolutionary movement in many countries.

In South Viet Nam, they are cynically waging a direct armed aggression which marks the most brutal development in the history of mankind and they take the knell of this doctrine.

They scheme to turn South Viet Nam into an American neo-type colony. They base with a view to suppressing the movement of national liberation, checking the spread of socialism in South East Asia, they have been waging a war as a spring-board to "march on the North", to destroy socialism in Viet Nam, attack the socialist camp, the cities and the countryside, to bring peace. In the first stage, they gave top priority to economic and military aid, trying to suppress the people's revolutionizing movement, the agency of the puppet administration and army. These measures having failed out, they had recourse to "special warfare" in the hope of dominating the South Vietnamese people while making their aggressive colonialist face and smothering the American people's and the world people's protest. When "special warfare" and perfidious economic and political measures had proved ineffective to save their disastrous situation and that of their corrupt Saigon henchmen, they sent U.S. troops to South Viet Nam, to begin the U.S. embarking in new military adventure (2) They have been carrying out the "kill all, burn all, destroy all" policy, using "poison gas" and "napalm" and other extermination means more inhuman than Hitler's. They have unleashed a war of destruction, essentially through air raids, with an ever increasing scale and rate, in the hope of intimidating the North Viet Nam people and reversing the tide in South Viet Nam. This is a war of U.S. hypocrisy and neo-colonialism. It is U.S. aggression that is the only origin and the direct cause of the serious situation at present in Viet Nam and South East Asia.

But U.S. armed force cannot subdue the Vietnamese people. The U.S. aggressors have met with shameful military and political failures. Their strategic plans have successively gone bankrupt politically in South East Asia.

In South Viet Nam, our people have achieved great successes. Growing up rapidly in the course of the fighting, they have promoted the position of the relentless offensive of the revolutionary maintenance and enlarged the liberated areas, raised the people's war to a high degree of development, wiped out the important concentration camps, destroyed the U.S. and their puppet army, which has resulted in the puppet army's massive disintegration, the puppet administration's serious crisis and the enemy's rear's disruption.

In North Viet Nam, our people have also achieved great successes. Under new conditions and fulfilling its duty as the country's great rear to its great front, North Viet Nam is waging a standing ready to fight, defeating in the main the strategic scheme of the U.S. war of destruction.

Ours is a strong position, a rising position, keeping the enemy in a difficult situation. The position of the U.S. aggressors is a weak one, the sinking position of those who are bogged down in a quagmire.

A just struggle, the Vietnamese people's struggle is reminiscent of the Independence War waged by the American people two centuries ago against George III's aggressive troops. With some tens of thousands of mercenaries, the British colonialists plundered them and destroying their life with a cruelty and an impudence unwonted to the most brutal of the American monopolist bourgeoisie. But more cruel and more impudent than the British colonialists, are the perpetrating unforgivable crimes.

We struggle against the American aggressors but more so hatred for the American people. We make a clear distinction between the ruling circles guilty of aggression and the American people who do not profit by the war of aggression. During the former resistance to the French colonialists, we distinguished the latter from the French people. While we direct our hatred against the American aggressors, we hail and thank true Americans struggling against the dirty U.S. war in Viet Nam for every one of their gesture. We are aware that Washington's war policy is not only a threat to our people, to world peace, but also a daily attack on the life of the American people. It is clearly that of the working people. Tens of hundreds of thousands of young Americans have to fight in Viet Nam in the interests of the financiers, tens of thousands have fallen on the Viet Nam battlefields, tens of thousands have been killed, enormous expenditures needed by the aggressive war have been a burden to the American people. They are the American people's war, not the American people's war have been arrested and jailed... Marx and Engels were right in saying that people who

oppress another cannot be free and that the enslavement of one people by another is the latter's own misfortune.

The course of events over the past ten years has confirmed the fact that the American people, the aggressors and the Vietnamese people are the victims of aggression. Prompted by this situation, the four-pointed star of the N.F.L. in Washington has drawn a line of demarcation between the U.S. aggressors and the Vietnamese people and shown the former the way out of the Viet Nam quagmire.

## THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE'S SACRED RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION

STRUGGLING for the country's independence and freedom, we struggle for the right to self-determination of our people, a people possessed of a four thousand year history and having built since long a unified country. "The right to self-determination of a people means: only this people can determine their own fate, no one has a right to use armed force to interfere in their life... to deprive them of their rights" (3). It is obvious that only the Vietnamese people have the right to shape their own destiny.

But the U.S. imperialists have sent troops to South Viet Nam, waging a war of destruction on North Vietnam, planned to perpetrate the division of our country, undermine the unity of our people, to deprive them of their rights to self-determination. The U.S. imperialists have interfered in the internal affairs of the Vietnamese people through armed aggression, to deprive them of the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people, preventing them from exercising their right to self-determination.

Reflecting the legitimate and profound aspirations of our entire people, the four-point star of our government confirms the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights and emphatically demands that Washington put an end to its aggression in both countries. In this context, it specifically stresses that the South Viet Nam affair should be settled by the South Viet Nam people in accordance with the four-pointed star of the N.F.L. The peaceful reunification of Viet Nam should be "the concern of the people in the two countries, without any interference from outside."

This just position has been enjoying the world people's warm sympathy and support. But the U.S. imperialists have stubbornly refused to recognize the right of the Vietnamese people to self-determination. The White House has declared that they can accept points 1, 2, 4 and point 3, thus refusing to recognize the South Viet Nam people's right to self-determination. This is a genuine representative.

It is common knowledge that the birth of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. is the result of the U.S. found change in the national struggle waged by our united people against the aggressive U.S. imperialists and their henchmen. The N.F.L. has rallied under its banner all patriotic and democratic forces for the struggle for the realization of its program which reflects the most cherished aspirations of the masses and the objective trend of development of the South Viet Nam society. The objectives of the Front—independence, democracy, improvement of the people's living standard, peace, neutrality in South Viet Nam, eventual peaceful reunification of Viet Nam—are fully consistent with our people's sacred interests, the world people's struggle for peace, independence, democracy and social progress. In this context, the N.F.L. is an alliance of national and democratic forces, an active and vanguard element of the people's front against aggressive U.S. imperialism.

Thanks to its correct political and military line, its ever growing revolutionary maintenance, national unity, its strong political army and its mighty revolutionary armed forces, the N.F.L. has been continuing to develop its prestige at home and abroad. Master of the revolutionary situation in South Viet Nam, it has smashed the "special warfare" strategy and is inflicting serious failures on the U.S. "limited war". In large liberated areas, it is acting as a national and democratic administration assuming the direction of the fighting, production and the building of a new life in the world, it enjoys the sympathy and support of the broad masses of the progressive people including the American people.

It is obvious that the N.F.L. is the sole genuine representative of the South Viet Nam people who survive and future are associated with it. The Saigon administration is only a hand of traitors, an instrument created and kept by the U.S. imperialists to serve their aggressive policy. The "agreements" and "conventions" it has signed with its Yankee bosses are but mortgages on the country. By its so-called American "commitment" to the Saigon administration, Washington has simply wanted to screen itself behind its troops to implement its colonialist policy in

ON July 2 last, *USIS* published Dean Rusk's interview with *Washington Post* and *Nyher of the Stockholm Sunday*.

Rusk repeated the old themes of American propaganda on the Johnson administration's Viet Nam policy, especially on its "commitments" to the Saigon puppet government and the aggression from the North in order to justify the sending of an American expeditionary corps to South Viet Nam, and also on the "non-representative character" of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, in order to justify Washington's refusal to recognize it.

Answering a question on negotiations with the government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, he contended himself with changing again the same old tunes, of which public opinion had had enough. He strongly emphasized: "We have stated many times that we are ready to discuss at any time and at any place... at once without conditions." Concerning the form of a final settlement, he said that the 14 points made public by the White House in January 1965.

Dean Rusk's declarations contain no new element. On the contrary they show once more the cynicism of the American rulers as regards the Viet Nam problem.

Dean Rusk's recalling of Washington's so-called "unconditional" negotiations "cannot make people forget American insistence on the 'principle of reciprocity' and 'simultaneous de-escalation'." The White House has demanded that an eventual cessation of U.S. bombing of North Viet Nam should be compensated by, for instance, the Vietnamese "de-escalation" in South Vietnam. The United States has triggered off a war of aggression against South Viet Nam and an air war of destruction against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, a sovereign and independent

## B-52 BOMBING OF D.R.V.N. TERRITORY

AS reported earlier, on July 13, 1967, U.S. B-52 strategic bombers, in many waves, intensively and savagely bombed Truong Son village (South) and Vinh Son (North) of the demilitarized zone. This was a long planned action which came after the shelling of the D.R.V.N. territory. Moreover, the U.S. military based in the South of the 17th parallel, and the U.S. navy in the Gulf of Tonkin, have already sent thousands of aircraft and warships to raise to the ground many villages including Vinh Quang, following

the introduction of U.S. and puppet troops into the demilitarized zone. Furthermore, this occurred after McNamara, the U.S. Secretary of Defense, had personally made an inspection tour of the demilitarized zone. The attention of public opinion in the U.S. and in Saigon was drawn to the fact that the U.S. command might possibly

draw her troops after peace has been restored in South Viet Nam means that she will never do so. And to say that the South Vietnamese population must be left "free" to choose their own government under the control of American troops means that the U.S. is bent on imposing on them an U.S.A.

In short, the White House's 14 points mean that the U.S. will never withdraw its troops from South Viet Nam before having set up a government entirely devoted to her. In other words, before holding firm control over the whole of South Viet Nam. But to want something badly does not mean that one will necessarily get it. It is the people and armed forces of South Viet Nam, under the leadership of the N.F.L., and not the American troops, who will decide the future of South Viet Nam.

One may recall here the declaration by Nguyen Dinh Thinh, Foreign Minister of the D.R.V.N., to Australian Prime Minister Sir William McMahon on January 28, 1967: "If the United States really wants peace, it must first halt its aggression against South Viet Nam, discontinue the bombings and other acts of war against the D.R.V.N. It is only after the unconditional cessation of U.S. bombings and all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N. that there could be talks between the D.R.V.N. and the U.S.A."

Many governments and peoples the world over have warmly hailed this declaration and are doing so each day. First, this declaration expressed the Vietnamese people's determination to oppose American aggression and to fight to the end for the independence and freedom of their fatherland and for peace in Asia and the world. Second, it clearly shows that the Vietnamese people, revived by their long struggle to a victorious end, are ready to open the way to a settlement of the Viet

nam problem on the basis of respect for the Vietnamese people's national rights. This is the best test for the White House's "will for peace."

But the Johnson administration has turned a deaf ear and made new steps in its war escalation against North Viet Nam.

At 7.40 a.m. on July 13, 1967, U.S. aircraft dropped 10 large-scale bombs on a portion of the Red River dyke in Ha Thach village, Lam Thao district, Phu Tho province, about 70 km. northwest of Hanoi. This dyke section was seriously damaged and a number of dwelling houses destroyed. Since June 1967, when the flood season began, U.S. aircraft have repeatedly bombed the dykes of Ouu, Thuan, Trai Binh, Ma and other rivers. This act of war is designed to destroy flood control, production and endanger the

lives and means of livelihood of the North Vietnamese people. It is a continuation of the bombing of almost all important dyke systems in North Viet Nam, which has resulted in the death of many people and the destruction of villages and property.

Following their intention, the U.S. command has launched attacks on the dyke system and hydraulic projects in North Viet Nam. U.S. aircraft recently bombed a section of the Red River dyke in North Viet Nam's largest dyke system.

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(Appeal of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. Central Committee on the occasion of July 20)

The great victories won by the South Vietnamese armed forces and people in the past 15 years cannot be separated from the solidarity of our 17 million blood-sealed compatriots in the North and from the devoted support and assistance given to our just struggle by various governments, democratic and progressive organizations, and millions of people in the world.

*"The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation energetically denounces to world public opinion the extremely brutal policy of aggression of the U.S. imperialists and condemns their inhuman policy of extermination toward the South Vietnamese people. It demands that the U.S. end its aggressive war against Viet Nam, stop*

To the peoples and governments of the Arab countries who are fighting against the Israeli aggressors — henchmen of U.S. imperialism — thereby defending the same frontline against the U.S. imperialists and their stooges, we convey

## THE VIETNAM

Nam. The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the South Vietnamese people once again solemnly declare that they are determined to uphold their just stand, persistently carry out their patriotic struggle and, whatever sacrifices and hardships they may have to endure, and whatever the development of the war, are resolved to defeat the aggressive war of the U.S. imperialists so as to bring to complete victory their cause of liberating the South, defending the North and reunifying their Fatherland.

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*Workers and students in Montevideo (Uruguay) demonstrate in support of Viet Nam.*

On July 5, Norodom Phurissara, Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, also sent a letter in reply to the message of congratulations from Nguyen Day Trinh, D.R.V.N.' Foreign Minister.

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(Excerpts from Nhan Dan editorial of July 20, 1967.

THE Geneva Agreements are an international document which confirms the glorious victory won by the Vietnamese people in their anti-French Resistance War, following the August Revolution. They are the outcome of the persistent efforts of the Vietnamese people who had, for 8 or 9 years, shed their blood to win independence and freedom for the fatherland, 'under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the D.R.V.N. Government. These efforts and the great successes, with the victory of Dien Bien Phu as the decisive climax, were the pre-requisite for these agreements. We were then in a position to win and because of this, the French colonialists were forced to accept the Geneva Agreements and to avoid

From political struggle at the outset through simultaneous uprisings to people's war, under the clear leadership of the North Vietnamese People's Army, the U.S. has been repudiated on its mettle. After having frustrated the U.S., "spoils of war", the South Viet Nam I.A.F. and people have won the valiant battle of the final war of the U.S. in the White House and the Pentagon in its initial stage. In the period from July 1965 to April 30, 1967, they put over 100 enemy troops out of the country, including nearly 100 American and 100 "satellite troops" shot down or destroyed nearly 4,500 aircraft, and destroyed nearly 8,500 military vehicles, (including nearly 3,250 tanks and armoured cars). The liberation of the South has been increasingly consolidated in all fields, political, military, economic and cultural. In cities, popular struggle continues surging ahead, and in rural areas, it has become the last and the strongest tidal waves, it is the U.S. creators and the Thieu-Ky clique.

The cherished image of South Viet Nam in the hearts of every Vietnamese in the North is daily and hourly strengthened by the anti-U.S. resistance for national liberation. As faithful as ever, the North "is resolved to step up to its pledge to fight side by side with the 14 million patriots in the South in order to liberate the Fatherland and defend the North with a view to the reunification of the Fatherland." The hardships and sacrifices it will undergo, even if Hanoi, Haiphong, other cities and enterprises were destroyed, the North—the big river—will always give its prompt and spontaneous response to the call from the South.

As two, inalienable parts of, heroic Viet Nam, the North and the South are resolved to fight and defeat the U.S. aggressors. Our anti U.S. stand for independence and freedom accords with the fundamental spirit of Geneva Agreements, with justice and human conscience and with the common interests of the nations and world peace.

The whole of progressive mankind is unanimous in denouncing the U.S. imperialists for their sabotage of Geneva Agreements and in expressing warm approval and support for the Vietnamese people's just cause. Sane minded people have realised more and more clearly that "the Vietnamese people cherish peace, a genuine peace, a peace in independence and freedom, not an American peace."

serious escalations made by the U.S. imperialists, to expose their scheme for world extension and their "peace negotiation" double talk and to take effectual measures to stay their bloody hands.

**T**HE declaration of the Tricontinental Committee for Solidarity with the Vietnamese People emphasized the necessity of "supporting and propagating the four points of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam as the five points of the Southern Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, of laying

and colonialism. Part of the fund raised will go to Vietnam.

^ In China, the Chinese Architects' Association, in a letter to its Vietnamese counterparts condemned U.S. aggression and pointed out: "As the Chinese people to the Vietnamese people, what the lips are to the teeth, we pledge ourselves to stand always on the side of

In Pyong-Yang, the PDI  
Korea along with a gr  
meeting, a pictorial exhibi

Workers and students in Montevideo (Uruguay) demonstrate in support of Viet Nam.



## (Continued from page 2)

Let us put this question: why has Washington who many a time was out for the annihilation of the "Viet Cong", declared that no human strength could force it to withdraw from Viet Nam and urged its Saigon stooges to shout "march on the

Whenever and wherever peace negotiations are possible and necessary, the revolutionary vanguard has to weigh the pros and cons and skilfully combine contradictory aspects. As Lenin has taught,

The U.S. bombing of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, an independent and sovereign country, is illegal and a crude violation of the Geneva agreements. Washington declares that it respects

(Continued from page 8)

## TO THE READER

We are aware that there is much room for improvement in the wording of our paper. We apologize for this shortcoming and highly appreciate all your suggestions as they will help us to serve you more

(i) U.S. economic "aid" is compulsorily coupled with military "aid". Through economic and military "aid", Washington sets up a puppet government in the recipient country to rule over and exploit the natives. When a puppet government proves

According to still incomplete figures, in all these attacks the Thu Dau Mot L.A.P. wiped out 500 enemy troops including 200 Yankees, destroyed 20 tanks and armoured cars, 6 cannons and burnt 2 petrol and ammunition depots and many buildings.

The U.S.A. introduced into South Viet Nam 200 "advisors" in 1954 — 30,000 G.I.'s in 1964. From mid-1965 on, it has been massively committing expeditionary forces to South Viet Nam to a "limited war" thereby initiating a new phase of aggression. The American build-up of over 400,000 men in Feb. 1967, is to be increased to 500,000 or more.

- (3) *American Declaration of Independence (1776).*
- (4) *Stalin — Marxism and the national question.*
- (5) *Question of peace.*
- (6) *Lenin: On the programme of peace.*

(Continued from page 10)

South Vietnamese forces and people are achieving ever-greater victories in every respect. The U.S. is sustaining more defeats and losses are caught in the future, when the forces of the South will be armed forces and



# **HEAVY AIR ATTACKS AGAINST U.S. BASES**

**DA NANG (July 15, 1967): 7th attack against U.S. airbase: The enemy admits: 42 planes destroyed or damaged, 181 G.I.s put out of action, important quantities of war materials and a bomb depot destroyed**

DA NANG (July 15, 1967)

On the night of July 15, 1967, Da Nang airbase was attacked for the seventh time. For nearly one hour, the L.A.F. shelled relentlessly the runway, the plane parking ground and 4 barracks.

The U.S. spokesman in Saigon admitted the destruction of 42 aircraft including such types as F4, F8, C130, C123, and choppers worth \$6 million dollars: 181 Yankees were killed or wounded (two thirds belonged to the air force).

The shelling which hit the bomb depots and bomb loaded planes caused many explosions and fires and destroyed many ammunition dumps, the post office, the billets of American airmen and equipment in the airbase. The damage was heavy. The explosions were so powerful that

one truck was lifted and fell on a burning barracks; water mains and hoses and machine parts were hurled one hundred metres away. The airbase was closed down.

UPI reported that the commanding Tactical Flying Group #60 in the airbase said that bomb and shell splinters littered the ground and all the planes were hit. He admitted that this attack had caused the greatest losses to the airbase since the beginning of the year (in the attacks of February 27 and March 15, 1967, the L.A.F. wiped out over 1,500 Yankees and destroyed 100 planes.)

QUANG NAM (June 14-22, 1967)

1,000 enemy troops (including 800 Yankees) wiped out, 25 armoured cars destroyed, and 3 aircraft downed.

Nong Son post defended by one battalion and one company of American troops overrun.

On the night of July 4, 1967, Nong Son post, defended by Battalion 2 and 1 artillery company of U.S. Marine Division, was violently attacked. After a 20 minutes' fighting, the L.A.F. overran the post, occupied it until the next morning, seized all the arms and ammunition and military equipment, captured 100 Yankees, and destroyed 2 155mm cannons, 4 106mm and 81mm mortars and 10 machine guns. To wipe out all traces of this defeat, American planes came and killed all the G.I.s captured by the L.A.F. On July 4, 1967, other enemy troops were landed near Nong Son in 30 helicopter-trips but were intercepted by the L.A.F. and suffered a number of casualties.

Between June 14 and 22 1967, the regional troops and guerrillas of Quang Nam beat off many raids mounted by over 5,000 G.I.s and puppet troops. G.A.N.P. reported that 1,000 enemy troops including 800 G.I.s were wiped out, 25 armoured cars destroyed and 3 aircraft downed.

BINH DINH (July 6, 1967)

U.S. airfield and logistic base attacked: 16 aircraft destroyed, 4 ammunition and fuel depots burnt down.

On July 6, 1967, the L.A.F. of Central Truong Bo stormed the logistic base of the U.S. Air Mobile Cavalry Division set up in Doc chuong, 30 kms south of Bong Son. At the very beginning, the Yankees were pinned out by the unexpected fire of the L.A.F. and could not offer

the least resistance. The L.A.F. occupied the airfield, the parking ground and set fire to the fuel depots, ammunition depots. According to preliminary reports, 200 G.I.s were killed or wounded, 16 aircraft destroyed, 4 ammunition and petrol depots and many American billets burnt, and 10 M16 armoured carriers and 2 cannons destroyed.

THU DAU MOT (July 11, 1967)

500 U.S. and puppet troops wiped out in one-night attacks on many posts.

On July 11, 1967, at 0.30 hour, the L.A.F. heavily shelled Tac N'ach airfield, base of Brigade 2, U.S. Infantry Division 1, 4 km northeast of Hon Quan.

(Continued page 7)

It is more than a month from the election force to be staged in Saigon to choose a "president." After that, there will be elections to the puppet senate and house of representatives. These election forces have been mounted by the Americans since the Honolulu meeting in Feb. 1966, and with the approach of election day, Washington has been showing great concern. The Americans, they maintain, must be responsible for the political situation in Saigon. Why so?

The U.S. neo-colonialist policy calls for the institution of a puppet administration of a faked democracy furnished with a "civilian"

people, under the leadership of the N.F.L., are winning ever greater victories, and in the world more and more countries recognize the N.F.L. as the sole genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people whose influence and prestige are more and more felt in the world. Meanwhile, U.S. puppet in Saigon are torn by growing antagonisms and have shown themselves willing tools of the U.S. imperialist aggressors. Such circumstances have hastened Washington to stage the election force in an effort to put a cloak of faked democracy on its stooges, to make a shot in the arm and fit them with an appearance of "stability by

the remaining small area is to found more than one million U.S. satellite and puppet troops who are to stand for election only because he mentioned a "policy of peace" in his election program. Nguyen Khanh, himself has bluntly declared that he will oppose with military force any civilian candidate who wins the election (AP May 13). He has even the threat to state that if a dictatorship may not be worse than colonialism and imperialism, that must be added various reasons to the previous elections. U.S. Vice-President Humphrey himself has signed on the Viet Nam Hi clique to acquiesce in the "Thieu-Ky clique" with their own experiences in the recent rigged election in South Korea. In such circumstances what validity would the Saigon election have?

It is said that President Johnson hopes to give his Saigon puppets the appearance of stability by a redistribution of seats through this election. This, however, is only a wish. Happenings in Saigon promise different things. Antagonisms between the "civilian" group and the military junta have been lasting for years and have caused a political crisis in the puppet administration. Recently these conflicts have increased. The latest moves of the Saigon National Assembly—acceptance of General Min's candidature for the presidency and opposition to press concentration—were attacks directed against the ruling military junta. The "civilian" group has denounced the Thieu-Ky joint ticket as unconstitutional, and demanded their resignation as provided for by the electoral law, and has been stirring the matter out to the streets (demonstration-Ed.). These moves are being met by the ruling generals insist that they retain their positions until a new "president" is elected.

The race for the presidency is also among the puppet forces themselves. Antagonisms between Thieu and Ky—the two most efficient servants of

the U.S.—have come to the surface and grown sharper. The U.S. has put pressure to bear on Ky, forcing him to make concessions by withdrawing his candidature for the presidency to run vice president in a joint ticket with Thieu. On July 1, Renter pointed out that undoubtedly between the generals, new schemes were being laid. They talked about united front, but tried to secure a great amount of money. Instability is inevitable and there is the possibility of Ky stage revolution. The *London Times* on July 3 noted that there were signs that South Vietnam was being near to a state of political unrest, a state similar to those which had touched off the previous coup d'Etat. The first crack in this election force Mr. Johnson has reaped and will reap is continued instability, more serious still, in his stable.

The peoples round the world, including the American people, have realized that the U.S. stooges in Saigon are mere tools of the imperialist aggression. The election force due soon in Saigon can in no way appease public opinion, nor can it condemn them as the aggressors. More than 30,000 military advisers, hundreds of military depots and a sizable quantity of modern weapons, the Americans had formerly installed a puppet administration in the national assembly for the Diem regime. Yet the world's people continued to look at Diem as a servant of Washington, whose fate was entirely in the hands of Washington and the C.I.A. Today, with more than 500,000 U.S. and satellite troops and a large number of more atrocious so far—the Americans are also trying to set up a puppet regime in Saigon. The people who remain untouched by the U.S. stooges.

In the eyes of the South Vietnamese people, men of this regime are mere traitors.

(Continued page 7)

# **SAIGON ELECTORAL FORCES ARE A FARCE**

and "constitutional" tag. The absence of an administration devoid of a faked democracy would mean a disaster for the U.S. to keep its "commitment" to its flunkeys and hide its aggressive nature, since more than 500,000 U.S. and satellite troops are fighting a war of conquest in Viet Nam. Furthermore, the force of circumstances has prompted Washington to act with a greater sense of urgency as the Americans are finding themselves in contact with more serious failure and quandary in their aggressive war against Viet Nam, and as U.S. political isolation in the world has reached a high point and as even its long-standing allies have many times turned its back on it, and most recently condemned it as the aggressor in Viet Nam. Meanwhile the American people more and more resent their government's costly and useless war, and its support for a handful of placemen who represent nobody. On the other hand, on the battlefield, the Vietnamese armed forces and

redistribution of seats. Such an attempt, if successful, would provide Washington with a steady prop of the kind it likes to have. It extends its way of aggression or with pawns for Johnson's "peace talks" swindle. Of late, some Western newspapers, more often than not, have been sceptical as to the democratic character of the election. But it remains to be seen what validity the election will have. It is well known that the N.F.L. is controlling four-fifths of South Vietnam territory with three-quarters of its population. Recently, AP correspondent John F. Wheeler acknowledged that the communists were still able to control even over the countryside where 90 per cent of the Vietnamese were living (AP July 7). Back from Johnson's "peace talks" Bernard Cooper, correspondent of *Le Monde Diplomatique*, wrote in the March 1967 issue of this magazine that the N.F.L. is exercising control even over the central areas of Saigon". In

intellectuals and those practising liberal professions were made because these people disagreed with the policy of the ruling military junta, and noted that in Saigon, the neutralist tendency was regarded as a political crime. Press censorship, proclaimed earlier by Nguyen Cao Ky, is being exercised in a drastic manner. Political leanings and views which are not in line with the Thieu-Ky clique are discarded. As the *New York Times* put it on July 3, the Thieu-Ky clique regarded the South Viet Nam constitution as a laughing-stock. The paper said that although the Constitution had been amended, it was nearly 3 months now, yet blank spaces on Saigon paper front-pages marking censored paragraphs and articles were on the increase.

A general in exile in Thailand has been banned by the Thieu-Ky clique from returning to the country to run the election in spite of the fact that his candidature has been approved by Na-

tional Assembly. Another candidate who has been charged with "communism" and refused to stand for election only because he mentioned a "policy of peace" in his election program. Nguyen Khanh, himself has bluntly declared that he will oppose with military force any civilian candidate who wins the election (AP May 13). He has even the threat to state that if a dictatorship may not be worse than colonialism and imperialism, that must be added various reasons to the previous elections. U.S. Vice-President Humphrey himself has signed on the Viet Nam Hi clique to acquiesce in the "Thieu-Ky clique" with their own experiences in the recent rigged election in South Korea. In such circumstances what validity would the Saigon election have?

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